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Message Text

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43
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /050 W
---------- 075433
R 011327Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHLC 4418

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E O 11652: N/;-
TAGS: PFOR, US, IS
SUBJECT. APPOINTMENT OF EHUD AVRIEL AS ISRAELI CONGEN IN CHICAGO

1. IN ANNOUNCING APPOINTMENT OF EHUD AVRIEL, ONE OF ISRAEL'S HIGHEST-RANKING DIPLOMATS, AS CONGEN IN CHICAGO, RECENT JERUSALEM POST ARTICLE MAKES REFERENCE TO GOI DESIRE TO "UPGRADE THE LEVEL AND QUALITY OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL, PARTICULARLY IN THE U.S.". THAT ISRAELI CONGENS IN U.S. ARE BEING UPGRADED WAS CONFIRMED SUBSEQUENTLY TO EMBOFF BY REUVEN DAFNI (MFA NORTH AMERICAN DIVISITN). DAFNI DISCUSSED BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTY OF GETTING SENIOR ISRAELI DIPLOMATS TO ACCEPT NON-AMBASSADORIAL POSTS, BUT STATED ATTEMPTS BEING MADE TO CONVINCE THEM U.S. CONSULATES GENERAL MORE VITAL TO ISRAEL'S INTERESTS THAN MANY PRESTNGIOUS WORLD-WIDE ASSIGNMENTS. HOPES ARE THAT APPOINTMENT OF AVRIEL (ON WHOM DEP HAS COPIOUS BIO MATERIAL) WILL ATTRACT OTHERS OF SIMILAR EXPERIENCE TO US POSTS. (IN FACT, WE UNDERRTAND AVRIEL HAS OFFERED LONDON OR PARIS, TURNED THEM DOWN AND INSISTED ON CHICAGO ON GROUNDS HE COULD MAKE GREATERT CONTRIBUTION THERE. AVRIEL'S PERSONAL ATTITUDE PROBABLY RESULTED IN NEW POLICY RE UPGRADING CONGENS.) DAFNI ALSO NOTED THAT, AS DEPT IS AWARE9 GOI IS MAKING MAJOR EFFORT TO INCREASE NUMBERS OF OFFICIALS ON US SPEAKING CIRCUITS.
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2. COMMENT: APPOINTMENT OF AVRIEL (FIRST OF SEVERAL
ANTICIPATED IN "BEEFING UP" PROCEDURE REFLECTS GOI DESIRE
TO MORE EFFECTIVELYMOBLIZE SUPPORT AMONG JEWISH COMMUNITIEST
ABROAD, PARTICULALY IN US. BOTH PRIMIN RABIN AND FONMIN
ALLON RECENTLY HAVE STRESSED DESIRE TO STRENGHTHEN RELRESENTATIONS
BETWEEN
ISRAEL AND FOREIGN JEWISH COMMUNIT ES. ISRAELIS
ALSO ONLY TOO AWARE OF HEAVY PROPAGANADA CLUB ARAB
REVENUE BEGINNING TO WIELD ABROAD IN GENERAL AND IN US IN
PARTICULAR, THOUGHT THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE IT.
OBVIOUSLY THEY PERCEIVE NEED TO COUNTERATTACK ON PR
LEVEL BY CREATING MORE EFFECTIVE AND DYNAMIC HIGH-LEVELT
DIPLOMATIC/POLITICAL REPRESENTATION. AVRIEL WILL BE
EXPECTED TO HELP CARRY THE WORD TO MID AMERICA.
KEATING

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